

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 8th November 2017 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Ben Lord (Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Sophia Wilson, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton and Trevor Anderson

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE, B Cllr John Griffiths MBE and three members of the public

The Chairman explained to Councillors and members of the public attending that he would be running the public forum slightly differently from now on. At the beginning of the public forum he would ask each of the public their names and ascertain if they wish to speak and on what subject. Each person would then be given five minutes to speak, although at the Chairman's discretion this could be extended.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Laughton, Rowe and Birrell – apologies were accepted by all present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr McFruin declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 Ixworth Village Hall.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 11th October 2017.

4. Public Forum

Mr Graham Tooth attended to request support from the Parish council to help form a Patient Participation Group (PPG) at Ixworth Surgery. Mr Tooth made the following comments;

- It is a legal requirement for GP surgeries to have a PPG
- A PPG is different from the current Patient Association Group
- A PPG does the following –
- being a critical friend to the practice
- advising the practice on the patient perspective and providing insight into the responsiveness and quality of services
- encouraging patients to take greater responsibility for their own and their family's health
- carrying out research into the views of those who use the practice
- organising health promotion events and improving health literacy
- regular communication with the patient population

Mr Tooth informed members there was a Parish Conference on Healthcare being held on 16th November 2017 and urged a member of the Council to attend. It was agreed that Cllr Lord would attend. It was also agreed that the Chairman, Cllr Lord, would approach the surgery and open dialogue about forming a Patient Participation Group.

C Cllr Spicer stated that she had assisted in setting up Stanton PPG and suggested that contacting Healthwatch would be a good idea as they are very helpful and have a vast amount of information.

5. Report from C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Vertas** – Vertas has now submitted a planning application for the Fordham's Site. C Cllr Spicer is meeting with Suffolk County Council Directors to ascertain further information on companies wholly owned by Suffolk County Council.
- **Mulley's Roundabout** – Marketing Force, the company who runs the sponsorship of roundabouts for Suffolk County Council, have just been awarded the contract for another three years. C Cllr Spicer had been given possible figures of £700 a year for three years for the sponsorship of the roundabout but C Cllr Spicer would like to clarify before any decisions are made. Once the figures were obtained she would pass onto the Parish Council. It was discussed that the Parish Council could possibly sponsor

the roundabout in the future. It was agreed to discuss further once all relevant information had been obtained. Cllr Lord requested that C Cllr Spicer confirm the roundabout would be tidied before any contract for sponsorship was entered into.

- **Hempyard Bridge** - C Cllr Spicer has been speaking with the officers dealing with this issue and has requested that they inform her as soon as possible about what is happening with this issue. C Cllr Spicer is hoping to have a firm response in the New Year.

Cllr Lord enquired if any progress had been made on arranging a meeting with S.C.C. Officers to further discuss a footbridge over the by-pass. C Cllr Spicer agreed to arrange the meeting.

6. Report from B Cllr John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Vertas** – B Cllr Griffiths had not yet received notification that a planning application had been submitted. However, he was aware that the planning enforcement officers at St Edmundsbury had informed Vertas that a planning application had to be made.
- **Crown Lane** – The initial application for the first section of houses to be built on the Crown Lane development was still being discussed. Penny Mills, the planning officer overseeing this application, was seeking more advice on flood assessment and the viability study included in the application.

Cllr McFruin highlighted to C Cllr Spicer and B Cllr Griffiths that there was an issue with a very large puddle that keeps forming on the A143. The area in question is on the junction where Thurston Road from Pakenham meets the A143.

7. Planning

DC/17/2083 – 24 High St, Ixworth – (i) replacement render and insulation to front and side elevations (ii) repairs and repainting to window frames and front door **No objection**

DC/17/1949 – Sycamores, 5 Beeches Close, Ixworth – 1 no dwelling and detached double garage (following demolition of existing dwelling) **No objection**

DC/17/2175 – Sidshell, Crown Lane, Ixworth – (i) single storey rear extension (ii) insertion of roof lights to west and north elevation (iii) alterations to east boundary wall **No objection**

DC/17/1279 – replace side door – 16 High Street, Ixworth **No objection**

8. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

The Clerk explained to members the difference between a Committee of the Parish Council and a working party. It was resolved that the NP Group would be a working party of the Parish Council.

Terms of Reference for the NP Working party were agreed and the Clerk was to pass to the working party Chairman. A report would then be forwarded to the Parish Council each month who would then be able to ratify decisions made by the working party.

It was resolved that an independent Clerk for the working party would be employed by the Parish Council and the Clerk was given permission to advertise as soon as possible. It was agreed that the Clerk, the Chairman and the Chairman of the working group would interview candidates. The rate of pay would be discussed in item 18.

It was also resolved that the working party could employ a consultant to give advice on starting the plan and grant applications.

9. Ixworth Village Hall

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council Solicitor was ready to apply to register the land. The application should be sent within the next week.

The Chairman stated he had not yet written to the Village Hall Management Committee but would complete this within the next couple of weeks.

10. Robins Copse

The Clerk was contacting a surveyor to move this issue forward. Mr Cobbold had been made aware of the delay.

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **St Eds** – Parish Council Conference 16-11-17
- **Joanna Spicer** – Mulley's Roundabout
- **Peasecroft Road** – Anti Social Behaviour x 2
- **West Suffolk** – Dog Fouling Community Action Plan x 2
- **Suffolk Police** – Corrie McKeague Investigation Update
- **St Eds** – Bogus Bailiffs
- **St Eds** - Shop Late and Park for Free

12. Accounts

The following were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1147/1148	Wages	£1233.80
Chq No 1149	Cancelled Cheque	£0.00
Chq No 1150	Responsive Innovations Ltd	£219.00
Chq No 1151	Greenbarnes Ltd	£3194.36
Chq No 1152	St Eds	£36.40
Chq No 1153	Tripp Batt	£249.00
Chq No 1154	G Palastanga	£37.30
Chq No 1156	P A Brown	£261.44

Direct Debit Nest Pensions £8.98

Chq No 1155 Ixworth Village Hall £163.75

It was agreed not to pay this invoice at present as Cllr McFruin mentioned that the outside toilet had been closed due to vandalism. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain how long the toilet had been closed and obtain a corrected invoice.

The RFO was authorised to transfer £4000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

13. Ixworth Cemetery/St Mary's Churchyard

The Clerk reported she was still contacting contractors to discuss quotes for the various areas that the PC was responsible for maintaining.

Cllr Lord expressed his concern about the Cemetery. Cllr Lord was concerned about when and how the graves at the Cemetery were dug ready for a burial. Also, he was concerned with the condition of the grass cutting in front of the current row of graves.

It was resolved that a working party be set up to discuss various issues at the Cemetery. The working party would be made up of Cllrs Anderson, Shelton, McFruin Lord and the Clerk. The Clerk would arrange a date and generate a list of items to be discussed such as fees, grave digger and other issues. The working party would then report back to members at a future meeting.

Cllr Anderson informed members that he had obtained a quote for posts to run alongside the cremated remains section of the Cemetery so cars are unable to drive onto the grass and park in front of graves. The quote was £210. However, after a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Anderson would check at the Cemetery that once the posts were installed they would not interfere with the cremated remains.

14. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that he had met with the New Headteacher of the Free School, Mr Barrow. Mr Barrow seems very keen for the school to get involved and work with the Community.

The Chairman also reminded members of the Remembrance Parade on Sunday 12th November and if any members wished to parade they needed to be at the Fire Station at 10am. The Royal British Legion was also holding a small Ceremony at the War Memorial on Saturday 11th November at 11am if any members wished to attend.

15. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **Misquote –Mr Mark Sloane** - The minutes of August 7th Meeting Mr Sloane was quoted as saying; ‘I have major concerns that if the shop opens then vehicular noise will increase even more and go on longer into the evenings’
Mr Sloane states another member of the public said this comment and not him. Mr Sloane requested that it be noted that he did not make this comment.
- **Telephone Kiosk Ixworth Thorpe** - De-fib installed – need to notify Community Heartbeat to ‘Go Live’ – De-cals on box and Papers invite – It was agreed that Cllr Wilson and the Clerk would sort these issues
- **Telephone Kiosk Stow Road** - Two ideas – Museum and information box for timetables or notices. Another suggestion was to relocate the kiosk to the High Street but BT has confirmed the Kiosk cannot be relocated.
The kiosk needs refurbishment and the Clerk has requested a quote from Mike Royal for this to be done

16. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson enquired if there was any further information as to when the footpath sign at the steps in Stow Road would be re-installed. The Clerk was instructed to contact S.C.C. to ascertain if this issue would be completed soon.

Cllr Anderson stated he was concerned about a large pot hole in the Village Hall car park. It was agreed to report to the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Reeve highlighted he was concerned that the rivers near Hempyard bridge were not being cleared and were beginning to be blocked.

Cllr Shelton reported that a piece of the play equipment was damaged. As it was a health and safety issue Cllr Shelton requested if she could contact Playdale (the supplier) to get it repaired as soon as possible. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Shelton go ahead and get the equipment repaired. Cllr McFruin volunteered to tape the damaged piece of equipment to warn residents not to use.

17. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be 13th December 2017 and it would be a full meeting, not just Planning and Finance as previously suggested.

To resolve that, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for the remaining items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by the reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed

18. Staff

As the nature of this discussion was staffing the minutes are confidential due to data protection of staff details.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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